



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/847,216      | 05/02/2001  | Robert J. Davies     | GB000060            | 6420             |

24737 7590 05/19/2004

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
P.O. BOX 3001  
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

ORGAD, EDAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/847,216

Applicant(s)

DAVIES, ROBERT J.

Examiner

Edan Orgad

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 14-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Siep et al (US 6,452,480).

Regarding claim 10, Siep teaches a master station (14) for use in a multicast radio network, comprising means to transmit a first command instructing a slave station (18) to adopt a first state wherein transmission of an acknowledgement message in response to receiving decodeable data is enabled and a second command instructing the slave station to adopt a second state wherein transmission of the acknowledgement message in response to receiving decodeable data is disabled (col. 6, line 4-19).

Regarding claim 11, Siep teaches means to transmit the first and second commands such that only one of a plurality of slave stations is in the first state (col. 6, lines 4-19)

Regarding claim 12, Siep teaches means to assess the quality of radio communication with each of the plurality of slave stations and means to command a slave station which has the lowest quality radio communication to be the only one of the plurality of slave stations in the first state (col. 6, lines 40-55).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 13, the prior art of record fails to specifically disclose adjusting the transmitted power level of at least one of the plurality of slave stations in response to a command transmitted by the master station.

Claims 1-9 and 14-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1, 5 and 14, the prior art fails to specifically disclose transmitting data from a master station, receiving the data at each of the plurality of slave stations, at each slave station, determining whether the received data is decodeable or undecodeable and transmitting a negative acknowledgement if the received data is undecodeable, transmitting a positive acknowledgement if the received data is decodeable and the slave station is in a first state, transmitting no acknowledgement (i.e., only one slave station (the one in the first state) transmits an ACK message) if the received data is decodeable and the slave station is in a second state, wherein only one of the plurality of slave stations is in the first state.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 2684

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 2/20/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's argument in view of claim 10, applicant argues that Siep does not disclose the master station transmits a second command instructing the slave station to adopt a second state wherein transmission of the acknowledgement message is response to receiving decodable data is disabled. Applicant further states that the cited text discloses only that Siep selects a particular client calculator 82 for transmitting an acknowledgement message. However, it does not disclose that the master station transmits any (second) command instructing any slave station to adopt a second state wherein transmission of the acknowledgement message is response to receiving decodable data is disabled. However, in col. 6, lines 37-67, Siep teaches a command instructing any slave station to adopt a second state wherein transmission of the acknowledgement message is response to receiving decodable data is disabled. More specifically, Siep teaches that once the responder acknowledges the request in the second state, the control of the master module shifts to another state where the data is being broadcasted to the calculators. Since these packets include error detection means, the client calculator can determine whether a packet has been correctly received. Furthermore, Siep teaches in col. 7, lines 14-39, that by polling each calculator, different states are continued until the master verifies that each calculator has received the data.

*Conclusion*

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edan Orgad whose telephone number is 703-305-4223. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM to 5:30PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on 703-305-4223. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2684

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edan Orgad



May 16, 2004

  
NAY MAUNG

**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**